Application No.: 09/915936 Docket No.: IIW-006

Amendments to the CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-7 and add claims 8-10 as set forth in this listing of claims, which replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A process for controlling a fuel cell <u>system</u> comprising a fuel cell, which generates power by <u>supplying reacting</u> anode gas and cathode gas <u>supplied to</u> into the fuel cell, a compressor which controls the <u>an</u> amount of the <u>cathode</u> gas to be supplied into to the fuel cell, and a pressure control valve which controls <u>a pressure of</u> the <u>cathode</u> gas, <u>pressure of the fuel cell and which, wherein the pressure control valve</u> is provided on the downstream of <u>a cathode of</u> the fuel cell,

said process comprising:

changing an amount of the supply cathode gas supplied to the fuel cell by said compressor during the a transition period of said fuel cell, and thereafter changing the an opening of said pressure control valve, wherein an amount of power generated from the fuel cell is changed during the transition period.

- 2. (currently amended) A process for controlling a fuel cell <u>system</u>, comprising:
- a flow amount feedback control step which controls the <u>a</u> flow amount of the <u>a cathode</u> gas supplied into to a fuel cell to be a prescribed value; and
- a pressure feedback control step which controls the <u>a</u> pressure of the <u>fuel cell cathode gas</u> to be a prescribed value,

said feedback steps being stopped during the <u>a</u> transition period of the fuel cell, <u>wherein</u> an amount of power generated from the fuel cell changes during the transition period.

- 3. (currently amended) A fuel cell system, comprising:
- a fuel cell, which generates power by supplying reacting anode gas and cathode gas into supplied to the fuel cell,
- a compressor which controls the <u>an</u> amount of the <u>cathode</u> gas to be supplied into to the fuel cell,

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a pressure control valve which controls the <u>a cathode</u> gas pressure of the fuel cell and which is provided on the downstream of <u>a cathode</u> of the fuel cell,

the cathode an inlet side of the cathode to be a target airflow gas flow amount corresponding to a target power generation amount of the fuel cell by controlling the a revolution number of said compressor, and

air gas pressure control means, which controls the air a cathode gas pressure at the eathode inlet to be a target air gas pressure corresponding to the a target airflow gas flow amount by controlling the an opening of said pressure control valve at the a stationary state, and which controls the pressure control valve corresponding to the a change in the airflow gas flow amount detected from said flow sensor to thereby control the air cathode gas pressure to be the target air gas pressure during the a transition period, wherein an amount of power generated from the fuel cell is changed during the transition period while the amount of power generated from the fuel cell is not changed at the stationary state.

- 4. (currently amended) The fuel cell system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said air gas pressure control means during the transition period controls the opening of said pressure control valve depending upon the airflow gas flow amount detected from the flow sensor and upon the target air gas pressure.
- 5. (currently amended) The fuel cell system as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said air gas pressure control means during the transition period is kept operating until said airflow gas flow amount reaches the target airflow gas flow amount.
- 6. (currently amended) The fuel cell system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said air gas pressure control means during the transition period is kept operating until said airflow gas flow amount reaches the target airflow gas flow amount.
- 7. (currently amended) A process for controlling a fuel cell <u>system</u> comprising a fuel cell, which generates power by <u>supplying reacting</u> anode gas and cathode gas <u>into supplied</u> to the fuel cell, a compressor which controls the amount of the <u>cathode</u> gas to be supplied <u>into to</u> the fuel cell, and a pressure control valve which controls <u>a pressure of</u> the <u>cathode</u> gas, <u>pressure</u>

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of the fuel cell and which, wherein the pressure control valve is provided on the downstream of a cathode of the fuel cell,

said process comprising:

controlling the <u>a</u> power generation amount of the fuel cell by controlling the flow amount <u>of the cathode gas</u> and the pressure of the <u>air cathode gas</u> compressively transferred into the <u>a</u> cathode inlet side of the fuel cell, and

controlling said air pressure of the cathode gas to be a target airflow gas flow amount corresponding to the detected airflow gas flow amount, which is gradually changed, during the a transition period of said fuel cell, wherein an amount of power generated from the fuel cell is changed during the transition period.

- 8. (new) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a pressure feedback control operation for controlling the pressure of the cathode gas to be a prescribed value is avoided in the transition period of the fuel cell.
- 9. (new) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the cathode gas pressure is controlled depending upon the gas flow amount in the transition period.
- 10. (new) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a signal for controlling the pressure of the cathode gas is once slightly decreased at an initial stage of increasing the air flow amount and thereafter it is increased following an increase of the cathode gas flow amount.